

SELF-ADVANCEMENT.—Mr. Ewing, senator from Ohio, in the United States, is perhaps the most conspicuous man of that state, at the present time, unless Judge M'Lean be an exception. Although he has been in Congress but a single session, he has acquired a high reputation as a statesman. I should think him to be about forty. He is a self-made man,—a striking exemplification of what a man can do by merely personal effort. He is a native of this state, and was born poor. In his youth his principal employment was wood-chopping. Being very athletic, he excelled in the labours of the axe. At length, when he had grown up to early manhood, a desire for education was awakened in his mind. He directed his steps to this institution, (what institution is not specified,) where he completed his education, preparatory to the study of the law. In term time he chopped wood at the college-door; and in vacation it was his custom to swing his axe upon his shoulder, and go forth in search of a job, which he would accomplish, and return with fresh vigour at the commencement of the next term. In this way he sustained himself while in college, and came out with a constitution as vigorous as when he entered: and now he is a senator of the United States.—*American Annals of Education.*

COFFEE IN THE DESERT.—It is astonishing what effect the smallest portion of the strong coffee made by the Arabs has; no greater stimulus is required in the longest and most arduous journeys. It is universal throughout the East, but more used by the Arabs of the desert, than by any other class; they will often go without food for twenty-four hours if they can but have recourse to the little dram of coffee, which, from the small compass in which they carry the apparatus, and the readiness with which it is made, they can always command. I can vouch for both its strengthening and exhilarating effect; it answers these purposes better than I can conceive it possible a dram of spirits could do to those who indulge in it.—*Major Skinner's Adventures in the East.*

A SURPRISE.—A Southern gentleman was on board a steam-vessel proceeding from New York to Philadelphia. He engaged in conversation with two unknown gentlemen, and soon plunged into the subject of slavery. He was a slaveholder, and they were abolitionists. With one of them he was peculiarly pleased, and they discussed the subject for some length of time. He at last addressed the other abolitionist thus: "How easy and pleasant it is to argue the matter with such a man as your friend! if all your abolitionists were like him, how soon we and you might come to an understanding! But you are generally so coarse and violent! You are all so like Garrison. Pray give me your friend's name." "You have just spoken it; it is Mr. Garrison." "Impossible! this gentleman is so mild—so gentlemanly." "Ask the Captain if it be not Mr. Garrison." It was an important point; the captain was asked. This mild, courteous, sprightly, gentlemanly person was Mr. Garrison.—*Miss Martineau.*

EASTERN VEGETATION.—There is nothing more striking in the Malayan forests than the grandeur of the vegetation! The magnitude of the flowers, creepers and trees, contrasts strikingly with the stunted, and I had almost said pigmy, vegetation of England. Compared with our forest-trees, your largest oak is a mere dwarf. Here, we have creepers and vines, entwining larger trees, and hanging suspended for more than a hundred feet, in girth not less than a man's body, and many much thicker; the trees, seldom under a hundred, and generally approaching a hundred and sixty to two hundred feet in height. One tree that we measured, was in circumference nine yards! and this is nothing to one I measured in Java.—*Sir Stamford Raffles.*

CURRAN.—On one occasion Lord Clonmell was so pressed both by the argument, the eloquence, and the wit of Mr. Curran, that he lost temper, and called on the sheriffs to be ready to take any one into arrest, who would be found so contemptuously presuming to fly in the face of the Court. Mr. Curran, perceiving the twittering of a swallow actively in pursuit of flies, (for, as like in Nero's court, so in the presence of this emperor, scarcely a fly was to be found,) in his turn called the sheriffs to take that swallow into arrest, for it was guilty of contempt, as it had contemptuously presumed to fly in the face of the Court. The ridicule of this, and the peals of laughter which ensued, closed the scene.

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